was taken up in Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal during 1984-85, as a forerunner to the Special Rice Production Programme. Based on the experiences gained during the operation of this pilot project the Special Rice Production Programme was launched from 1985-86 in Assam, Bihar, Eastern Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Eastern Uttar Pra-desh and West Bengal for increasing the production and productivity of rice.

(b) The rice production in these states recorded 15. 86 per cent increase during 1985-86 over 1984-85 production.

Production of oil seeds

407. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI K. GOPALAN;

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what had been the production of major oil seeds during the last three years, yearwise, and seed-wise; and

(b) what had been the shortfall in production of oil seeds during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FERTILIZERS IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI R. PRABHU): (a) The production of major oilseeds during the last three years ending 1985-86 is given below: —

(Lakh tonnes)

Oilseed Crop	1983-84	1984-85	1985-86
Groundnut	70·9	64·3	55·2
Castorseed	4·0	4·7	3·6
Sesamum	5.6	5.2	5·0
Rapeseed & Mustard	26·1	30·7	26·4
Linseed	4·4	3·9	3·7
Nigerseed	1·8	1·5	1·9
Safflower	5·0	5·2	3·2
Sunflower	3·0	4·4	3·0
Soyabean	6·1	9·6	9·8
TOTAL NINE OILSEED:	126·9	129·5	111·5

Similar estimates of production of oilseeds for 1986-87 are not yet due from the States. However, according to current assessment, the total production of oilseeds in the country in 1986-87 is expected to be significantly higher as compared to 1985-86.

(b) A record production of 129. 5 lakh tonnes of oilseeds was achieved in 1984-85, in succession to the previous record of 126. 9 lakh tonnes in 1983-84. However, due to adverse rainfall and weather conditions, the production declined by 18 **lakh** tonnes to 111. 5 lakh tonnes in 1985-86.

Prices of edible oil

408. SHRI V, GOPALSAMY:
SHRI K. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state.

(a) what had been the rise in price of edible oils during the last three years;

(b) what had been consumer's demand of edible oil during these years, year-wise; and